

In the Claims:

1 - 37. (cancelled)

38. (currently amended) A process for extracting a compound or composition of matter from a raw material containing that compound or composition as a constituent part, which process comprises the steps of (1) contacting a sample of the raw material with an extraction solvent comprising a C₁₋₃ hydrofluorocarbon selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane and hydrofluoropropanes and a co-solvent which is not a (hydro) fluorocarbon to form a solvent liquor comprising the extraction solvent and an extract from the raw material, and (2) separating the solvent liquor containing the extract from the raw material.

39. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the C₁₋₃ hydrofluorocarbon is a hydrofluoropropane.

40. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 39, wherein the hydrofluoropropane is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane.

41. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 40, wherein the extract comprises a biologically active compound or a precursor thereof.

42. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the extract comprises a pesticide or a precursor thereof.

43. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 42, wherein the pesticide is a pyrethroid.

44. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the extract comprises a pharmaceutically active substance or a precursor thereof.

45. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 44, wherein the extract comprises a penicillin, an alkaloid, paclitaxel, taxane, a monensin or a cytochalasin.

46. (previously presented) A process for extracting a natural product from a plant material containing that product as a constituent part, which process comprises the steps of (1) contacting a sample of the plant material with an extraction solvent comprising a C₁₋₃ hydrofluorocarbon selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane and hydrofluoropropanes and a co-solvent to form a solvent liquor comprising the extraction solvent and an extract from the plant material, and (2) separating the solvent liquor containing the extract from the plant material.

47. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 45, wherein the C₁₋₃ hydrofluorocarbon is a hydrofluoropropane.

48. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 47, wherein the hydrofluoropropane is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane.

49. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 46 or claim 48, wherein the natural product is a flavored or aromatic composition.

50. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 46 or claim 48, wherein the natural product is a flavored or aromatic oil.

51. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the extraction solvent comprises a co-solvent having a boiling point in the range of from -85 to 20°C.

52. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the co-solvent is a C₂₋₆ hydrocarbon.

53. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the co-solvent is a C₂₋₄ alkane.

54. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the co-solvent is a dialkyl ether.

55. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the co-solvent is dimethyl ether, butane or a mixture thereof.

56. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 38 ~~or claim 46~~, wherein the extraction solvent is in liquid form.

57. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 40, wherein the extract comprises a natural product which is a flavored or aromatic composition.

58. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 38 or claim 40, wherein the extract comprises a natural product which is a flavored or aromatic oil.

59. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 46 or claim 48, wherein the natural product comprises a biologically active compound or a precursor thereof.

60. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 59, wherein the natural product comprises a pesticide or a precursor thereof.

61. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 60, wherein the pesticide is a pyrethroid.

62. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 59, wherein the natural product comprises a pharmaceutically active substance or a precursor thereof.

63. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 62, wherein the natural product comprises a penicillin, an alkaloid, paclitaxel, taxane, a monensin or a cytochalasin.

64. (new) A process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the extract comprises a natural product.

65. (new) A process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the hydrofluorocarbon is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane and the cosolvent is a C₂₋₄ alkane.

66. (new) A process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the hydrofluorocarbon is 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane and the cosolvent is a C₂₋₆ hydrocarbon, a dialkylether, dimethyl ether, or butane.